

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (original): A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to change a display location of at least one of the layers; and

controlling the computer system to change the display location of the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

Claim 5 (original): A performance data editing method according to claim 4 wherein the plurality of layers are vertically arranged on the screen, while the instruction designates a change of the display location of the layer within vertical arrangement of the layers.

Claim 6 (original): A performance data editing method according to claim 4 wherein the instruction to change the display location of the layer is given by a command which is selected by a user of the computer system on the screen of the display.

Claim 7 (original): A performance data editing method according to claim 4 wherein the display location of the layer is changed by effecting drag-and-drop operations with a mouse on a prescribed portion of the layer.

Claims 8-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (original): A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

- a first controller for displaying a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

- an instructor for instructing at least one of the layers to change its display location on the screen; and

- a second controller for changing the display location of the at least one of the layers being instructed.

Claims 17-21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (original): A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to change a display location of at least one of the layers; and

controlling the computer system to change the display location of the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

Claims 23-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 4, wherein one or plural execution icons are displayed in the layer in a direction from the left to the right on the display screen in accordance with progress of the performance data.

Claim 27 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 4, wherein each layer is displayed as an execution icon layer corresponding to the execution-related data.

Claim 28 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 27, wherein the execution icon layer contains at least one of a tempo icon layer, a dynamics icon layer, a joint icon layer, a modulation icon layer, an accent icon layer, an attack icon layer, and a release icon layer.

Claim 29 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 4, wherein when the execution icon attached to the layer is edited, edited content is reflected onto the performance data.